## PREVENTING NETWORK DISCOVERY OF A SYSTEM SERVICES CONFIGURATION

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Techniques are provided for preventing network discovery of a system services configuration. Preventing network discovery of a host system services configuration includes receiving a request from a remote address at a port on the host, observing a pattern associated with the request, authenticating the remote address based on the pattern associated with the request, and enabling access to the host over the port if the remote address is authenticated. Also provided are the interception of port connection requests and probes to enable connections with an authenticated remote address while preventing remote port scanning and unauthenticated access to a target host. Hiding applications and ports from remote port scanning but creating availability for remote administration is also disclosed. Finally, using connection request and probe patterns to establish a password and enable a remote address to access a port without being observed is provided.

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**PATENT**